

Western Balkans region where persons have turned increasingly to the use of extremist violence, the incitement of ethnic conflict, and other obstructionist acts to promote irredentist or criminal agendas that have threatened the peace in and the stability and security of the region and placed those participating in or supporting international organizations, including U.S. military and government personnel, at risk.

In both Macedonia and southern Serbia, individuals and groups have engaged in extremist violence and other acts of obstructionism to exploit legitimate grievances of local ethnic Albanians. These groups include local nationalists who fought with the Kosovo Liberation Army in 1998–99 and have used their wartime connections to obtain funding and weapons from Kosovo and the ethnic Albanian diaspora. Guerrilla attacks by some of these groups against police and soldiers in Macedonia threaten to bring down the democratically elected, multi-ethnic government of a state that has become a close friend and invaluable partner of NATO. In March 2001, guerrillas operating on the border between Kosovo and Macedonia attempted to fire upon U.S. soldiers participating in the international security presence in Kosovo known as the Kosovo force (KFOR). Guerrilla leaders subsequently made public threats against KFOR.

In southern Serbia, ethnic Albanian extremists have used the Ground Safety Zone (GSZ), originally intended as a buffer between KFOR and FRY/Government of Serbia ((FRY/GoS) forces, as a safe haven for staging attacks against FRY/GoS police and soldiers. Members of ethnic Albanian armed extremist groups in southern Serbia have on several occasions fired on joint U.S.-Russian KFOR patrols in Kosovo. NATO has negotiated the return of FRY/GoS forces to the GSZ, and facilitated negotiations between Belgrade authorities and ethnic Albanian insurgents and political leaders from southern Serbia. A small number of the extremist leaders have since threatened to seek vengeance on KFOR, including U.S. KFOR.

Individuals and groups engaged in the activities described above have boasted falsely of having U.S. support, a claim that is believed by many in the region. They also have aggressively solicited funds from United States persons. These fund-raising efforts serve to fuel extremist violence and obstructionist activity in the region and are inimical to U.S. interests. Consequently, the Executive order I have issued is necessary to restrict any further financial or other support by United States persons for the persons designated in or pursuant to the order. The actions we are taking will demonstrate to all the peoples of the region and to the wider international community that the Government of the United States strongly opposes the recent extremist violence and obstructionist activity in Macedonia and

southern Serbia and elsewhere in the Western Balkans. The concrete steps we are undertaking to block access by these groups and individuals to financial and material support will assist in restoring peace and stability in the Western Balkans region and help protect U.S. military forces and Government officials working towards that end.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 27, 2001.

REPORT ON THE FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 31

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with section 701 of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 (Public Law 95–454; 5 U.S.C. 7104(e)), I transmit herewith to you the Twenty-second Annual Report of the Federal Labor Relations Authority for Fiscal Year 2000.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 27, 2001.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:05 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2299. An act making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 172. Concurrent resolution recognizing and honoring the Young Men's Christian Association on the occasion of its 150th anniversary in the United States.

At 3:21 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 657. An act to authorize funding for the National 4-H Program Centennial Initiatives.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2299. An act making appropriations for the Department of Transportation and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 172. Concurrent resolution recognizing and honoring the Young Men's Christian Association on the occasion of its 150th anniversary in the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC–2587. A communication from the Chief Financial Officer and Plan Administrator, First South Agricultural Credit Association, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual pension plan report for calendar year 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC–2588. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Report of the Attorney General for the period July 1 to December 31, 2000; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–2589. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Change of Official EPA Mailing Address; Additional Technical Amendments and Corrections" (FRL6772–2) received on June 25, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2590. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of rule entitled "Oil Pollution Prevention and Response; Non-Transportation-Related Facilities" (FRL7003–1) received on June 25, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–2591. A communication from the Counsel for Regulations, Office of Public and Indian Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Section 8 Homeownership Program; Pilot Program for Homeownership Assistance for Disabled Families" (RIN2577–AC24) received on June 25, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2592. A communication from the Counsel for Regulations, Office of Public and Indian Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Voluntary Conversion of Developments from Public Housing Stock; Required Initial Assessments" (RIN2577–AC02) received on June 25, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–2593. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "NIDRR—Community-Based Research Projects on Technology for Independence; Resource Centers for Community-Based Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects on Technology for Independence; Assistive Technology Outcomes and Impacts and Assistive Technology Research Project for Individuals with Cognitive Disabilities" received on June 21, 2001; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–2594. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of the General Counsel, Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the